

JUNE 1962

INTERNATIONAL REVIEW
OF THE
RED CROSS

inter



arma

caritas

PROPERTY OF U.S. ARMY
THE JUDGE ADVOCATE GENERAL'S SCHOOL
LIBRARY

INTERNATIONAL COMMITTEE OF THE RED CROSS
GENEVA

INTERNATIONAL COMMITTEE OF THE RED CROSS

LÉOPOLD BOISSIER, Doctor of Laws, Honorary Professor at the University of Geneva, former Secretary-General to the Inter-Parliamentary Union, *President* (member since 1946)

JACQUES CHENEVIÈRE, Hon. Doctor of Literature, *Honorary Vice-President* (1919)

CARL J. BURCKHARDT, Doctor of Philosophy, former Swiss Minister to France (1933)

MARTIN BODMER, Hon. Doctor of Philosophy (1940)

ERNEST GLOOR, Doctor, *Vice-President* (1945)

PAUL RUEGGER, former Swiss Minister to Italy and the United Kingdom, Member of the Permanent Court of Arbitration (1948), *on leave*

RODOLFO OLGATI, Hon. Doctor of Medicine, former Director of the Don Suisse (1949)

MARGUERITE VAN BERCHEM, former Head of Section, Central Prisoners of War Agency (1951)

FRÉDÉRIC SIORDET, Lawyer, Counsellor of the International Committee of the Red Cross from 1943 to 1951, *Vice-President* (1951)

GUILLAUME BORDIER, Certificated Engineer E.P.F., M.B.A. Harvard, Banker (1955)

ADOLPHE FRANCESCHETTI, Doctor of Medicine, Professor of clinical ophthalmology at Geneva University (1958)

HANS BACHMANN, Doctor of Laws, Assistant Secretary-General to the International Committee of the Red Cross from 1944 to 1946 (1958)

JACQUES FREYMOND, Doctor of Literature, Director of the Graduate Institute of International Studies, Professor at the University of Geneva (1959)

DIETRICH SCHINDLER, Doctor of Laws (1961)

SAMUEL GONARD, former Colonel Commanding an Army Corps, former Professor at the Federal Polytechnical School (1961)

HANS MEULI, Doctor of Medicine, Brigade Colonel, former Director of the Swiss Army Medical Service (1961)

MARJORIE DUVILLARD, Directress of "Le Bon Secours" Nursing School (1961)

MAX PETITPIERRE, Doctor of Laws, former President of the Swiss Confederation (1961)

Honorary members:

Miss LUCIE ODIER, *Honorary Vice-President*; Messrs. FRÉDÉRIC BARBEY and Paul CARRY, Miss SUZANNE FERRIÈRE, Mrs. R. M. FRICK-CRAMER, Messrs. ÉDOUARD de HALLER, PAUL LOGOZ, ALFREDO VANNOTTI, ADOLF VISCHER.

Direction: ROGER GALLOPIN, Doctor of Laws, Executive Director
JEAN S. PICTET, Doctor of Laws, Director for General Affairs
ÉDOUARD DE BONDELI, Financial and Administrative Director
CLAUDE PILLOUD Deputy-Director for General Affairs

INTERNATIONAL REVIEW
OF THE RED CROSS

SECOND YEAR — No. 15

JUNE 1962

*

CONTENTS

	Page
Jean S. Pictet : The doctrine of the Red Cross	295

INTERNATIONAL COMMITTEE OF THE RED CROSS

<i>News Items</i>	312
<i>The ICRC in Algeria</i>	319
<i>World Red Cross Day</i>	321

NEWS OF NATIONAL SOCIETIES

<i>Austria</i>	323
<i>Indonesia</i>	325
<i>Monaco</i>	327
<i>Yugoslavia</i>	331

MISCELLANEOUS

<i>Sea Rescue Service</i>	334
-------------------------------------	-----

BOOKS

A GLANCE THROUGH THE REVIEWS

*

FRENCH EDITION OF THE REVIEW

The French edition of this Review is issued every month under the title of *Revue internationale de la Croix-Rouge*. It is, in principle, identical with the English edition and may be obtained under the same conditions.

*

SUPPLEMENTS TO THE REVIEW

*

SPANISH

Jean S. Pictet : La doctrina de la Cruz Roja.

GERMAN

Jean S. Pictet : Die Doktrin des Roten Kreuzes.

THE INTERNATIONAL REVIEW OF THE RED CROSS

*is published each month by the
International Committee of the Red Cross*

7, Avenue de la Paix, Geneva, Switzerland
Postal Cheque No. I. 1767

Annual subscription : Sw. fr. 20.— Single copies Sw. fr. 2.—

Editor : JEAN-G. LOSSIER

The Doctrine of the Red Cross ¹

Several Spanish speaking Red Cross Societies have suggested to the ICRC that this text of Mr. Pictet should be widely distributed, because these problems are taking on an increasing importance on the eve of the Red Cross movement's Centenary. The International Committee has met this wish by publishing this text which represents a clear synthesis of the work prepared by it in this field.

The work of the Red Cross is born of a high ideal, from which it continually draws fresh life, but as it primarily consists of practical actions, frequently improvised, there is a serious risk that in the haste of charitable action and in spite of the purity of one's intentions, one may deviate from the guiding principles and unity of thought may diminish, the more so as the institution takes root in every corner of the world. It is therefore particularly necessary that the Red Cross possesses a well-defined and firmly established doctrine.

Strange as it may seem, it was only after the up-heavals of the First World War that the International Committee of the Red Cross, which had been appointed guardian of the principles of the movement, felt the need to formulate this doctrine. At this time tradition sometimes had more force than the written law and certain ideas of moral order were imposed upon the conscience without it being felt necessary to define them, and often without one being able to discuss them. One knew what was right and what

¹ Talk given in French on April 26, 1961 and in German on May 19, 1962.

was wrong, and that sufficed. The Red Cross in all its many facets has forged its tenets in the hard school of life.

It is above all due to Max Huber, who was President of the International Committee for more than 20 years, that the Red Cross has received its spiritual foundations. However, he did not make a systematic exposé of the doctrine. This was an omission which has been felt and I have endeavoured to rectify it.

I have moreover arrived at the conclusion that the future of the Red Cross rests in its universality, in the acceptance of humanitarian principles by all men and all nations, but it is unfortunately true that the people of emergent nations who have been in tutelage and who today are acceding to independence, might be inclined to reject the Red Cross idea, in common with everything they thrust aside, because they have received it from their former masters, like any other product imported from Europe. They risk "throwing the child away with the bath water". Now, we know that the entire world can accept the conception of the Red Cross because it is based on motives common to all men, and because it corresponds to the acknowledged interests of mankind. Everyone, idealist or realist, believer or sceptic, can reach it in his own way, to whatever civilisation he belongs and whatever may be his views on life. Accepted by reason as much as by emotion, the Red Cross is not a creed which is opposed to other creeds, but an ideal which, in the sphere of mutual aid, inspires practical solutions to man's requirements. That also is something which I would like to make understood.

The doctrine of the Red Cross is permanent. It is the expression of long-term wisdom, indifferent to the ebb and flow of popular opinions and ideologies of the moment. It outlives those who created it and this lasting character is perhaps a sign of its superiority over everything that happens here on earth.

Before trying to define the principles of the Red Cross, one must first of all ask what is a principle. I will define it as an absolute of a moral nature, in which discussion plays no part. For some it is a moral imperative, which is indispensable to the human conscience. For others it is the result of social facts objectively considered.

* * *

Amongst the principles of this doctrine, first place is accorded to the principle of *humanity*. This is the fundamental basis of the institution, and outlines at the same time its ideal, its motives and its aim. If the Red Cross were able to have only one principle, this would be it, the principle according to which "the Red Cross fights against suffering and death. It demands that man shall be treated humanely under all circumstances".

The word "humanity" has two meanings. Firstly, it describes the human race, but it also means a sentiment of active goodwill towards mankind. It is in this sense that we use it here.

What is "humanitarianism"? It is the attitude of humanity towards men established as a social doctrine and extended to mankind as a whole. Modern humanitarianism is an evolved and rational form of charity and justice. Its effort does not only consist in fighting suffering, in freeing individuals from their shackles; it also has more positive aims in view, such as allowing the individual personality to assert itself more fully and to gain, for the greatest possible number, as much happiness as possible. Today it is the human race which is taking its destiny into its own hands, by refusing to consider suffering and misery as inevitable; humanitarianism does not admit the all too easy solution which makes each man responsible for the ills from which the world suffers.

All humanitarian ethics can be summed up in this single phrase "do as you would be done by". That is a precept which is to be found in most of the great religions and it is also the essential keynote of the positivists. One could doubtless attribute it to many other sources and other echos, for it is a universal truth because it is plainly in conformity with human nature and the necessities of social existence.

Humanitarianism mixes a little irrationality—the ideal, impossible to define, towards which one tends—with a lot of realism.

The feeling of humanity prompts everyone to act for the good of his fellows, but the great difficulty consists in determining what is the good for each individual. It is not enough to be good, to want to serve, one must also know what to do. What then is good?

Here are two explanations: Religions tell us that good is what is approved by God and that the feeling of humanity is born of love of one's neighbour. Love of one's neighbour—which can take

different forms : charity, devotion, fraternity, etc., is in its pure form entirely disinterested. He who puts it to the test does not have his own happiness in mind, but that of others. This feeling extends even to the enemy and the criminal. Religions have this in common that they all proclaim respect for life, restraint towards men and altruistic service.

As for the positivists, they count only on demonstrated facts. They scarcely believe in the personal liberty of man and they mistrust affectivity—simple sublimation of repressed instincts. For them, good is, in short, what appears at any given time to be reasonable.

It is not for the Red Cross to choose between these two worlds, which claim to be in opposition. It confines itself to observing that both lead to recognition of its paramount law.

Suffering and death afflict the human race and the man who is moved by love of his fellow-men will therefore endeavour to spare them such evils. Moreover, the Red Cross does not fight against all forms of suffering, but more especially against the mortal suffering which man left to himself cannot avoid and of which he is a victim, in the full sense of the word. No less important is the fight against death. The supreme object of the Red Cross is to save lives. Remember that the average life expectancy was 20 years under the Romans, 40 years under Napoleon and 68 today. This is some acceleration : Remember also that during the Crimean War, in the last century, 60 % of the wounded died and that during the Korean War some years ago this figure was lowered, for the American Army, to 2 %. There one pinpoints—in passing—what the Red Cross is striving to achieve : an end to mortal suffering and premature death.

The aim of the Red Cross, therefore, is that people will respect the life of the human being, his physical and moral integrity, but that they will also protect him, nurse him and above all, perhaps, recognise him as a man. Certain moralists tell us that a charitable act has no moral value unless it is complying with some lofty purpose. I would agree, but for the Red Cross what counts is that the action should be effective and that it should be of use to the unfortunate person. When all is said and done, the spirit in which it is carried out is of minor importance, because nothing is more

certain than that gifts of help often have over-tones of self-interest, vanity or political propaganda ; but it is already something that help is thus given to human beings who would otherwise have received nothing.

But the way in which that help is given is of great importance ; unhappiness makes people hypersensitive. When one is nursing or giving help, one must show some humanity, that is to say, in this instance, tact, imagination and intelligence. " What is charity which shows no sense of decency towards the unfortunate person and which, before comforting him, begins by crushing his self-respect ? " wrote Marivaux. It is true that an act of kindness clumsily bestowed may humiliate the person receiving it and even be taken as an insult. Therefore, the person who is giving or helping must not make his pity felt, but must show a cheerful face to the world. Why ? Because happiness is contagious and it does good. It is as simple as that. To give happiness is also charity ; sometimes even very great charity. Besides it is not difficult to smile. It is enough to reflect that one is bringing a little happiness to a frequently unhappy world.

After the principle of humanity, comes equality between men, according to which " the Red Cross is ready to come to the help of each individual, equally and without any form of discrimination."

At the end of the Second World War, a French regiment which was moving up the Rhône, entered a small town in the Jura. The unit commander approached the director of the hospital, who was a French woman. He had a number of wounded to leave but the hospital was already full of German wounded. " Put them out " said the officer " and make room for our men ". At this the French nurse suddenly became grave, and placing herself in his path replied " If you want to do that you will have to kill me first ". For a moment the officer remained nonplussed, then suddenly he understood that the enemy wounded were no longer enemies, and he gave the order for the column to move off. That is the Red Cross !

One of its great principles is, therefore, that of equality or non-discrimination between men. The first Geneva Convention had already proclaimed in 1864 that wounded soldiers, whether they are friends or enemies, must be treated with the same care. As for the Red Cross, it gives assistance without distinction of race, fortune, religion or political opinion. Obviously, in this world men are not

going to be entirely equal ; some are big, some are small, some are intelligent, others less so. They differ in all their physical, intellectual or moral qualities, but modern society has taken for its basis the idea of equality of rights amongst men because this has shown itself to be, when all is said and done, the most satisfactory way of regulating human relationships. This essential idea has permitted two worlds—that of the master and that of the servant—to come together and so form one humanity alone, as Jean G. Lossier recently wrote in an outstanding book. He adds : “ It is the extent to which man will respect the enemy whoever he may be—beyond class, race or religion—which will determine his ability to reduce the divisions of this world and find the principle of unity of a new civilisation.”

For the Red Cross and for all those who are moved by the spirit of service, non-discrimination is the absolute rule. For them men are “ alike ” by the fact of their common nature. The equality of men in suffering is particularly striking ; they are all exposed to it and they are all equally susceptible to it.

In the absence of the natural equality that fate has refused him, man's deep longing for a greater measure of justice makes him hope to be given equal opportunities and equal standing. He is led by a sense of equity to extend these benefits to human beings as a whole and is prevented by a spirit of humanity from excluding even those whom he hates.

We have said that this requirement is absolute. However, in exceptional circumstances, it may be necessary to make a choice ; for instance, when a doctor or nurse, for want of medicines in sufficient quantities, is only in a position to cure a certain number of patients in his care. This is frequently a tragedy for the Red Cross, comparable to that of a raft which will sink if any more castaways cling to it. Can one, in all conscience, use an oar and rap the knuckle of human beings, children perhaps, whose misfortune is to have not arrived first ? I know of several cases where doctors have only treated the sick, wounded or starving who still had a chance of survival, leaving those for whom there was no longer any hope to die. All this represents a matter of conscience, as it is called, because the decision must be left to the individual responsible, who will reach it after deep reflection and carefully weighing the pros

and cons. Because, who can claim to hold the scales of absolute justice?

Non-discrimination is therefore essentially bound to the Red Cross. Besides which, it is a long-established principle of medical ethics—deontology as it is called. Nevertheless, one would look for this in vain in the Hippocratic Oath (it should also be recalled that in antiquity the greatest philosophers blandly admitted, that prisoners could be reduced to slavery). But today, as the great Louis Pasteur wrote : “ One does not say to someone who is suffering : what is your country, what is your religion ? but “ you are suffering, we are one and I shall comfort you ”.

* * *

The third principle is *due proportion*, which can also be called *equity* : “ The help available shall be apportioned according to the relative importance of individual needs and in their order of urgency ”.

The humanitarian ideal would be for all men to be helped immediately and to the fullest extent. Unfortunately, available resources in the world are insufficient to alleviate all misery. There must therefore be a definite system of apportionment. This consists in each person being helped according to his need, and in the most urgent cases being given priority. That is one of the fundamental principles of the Red Cross. As a former Executive Vice-President of the British Red Cross, Sir John Kennedy, put it : “ There is only one rule for the Red Cross : the greatest help to the greatest need ”.

It would, in fact, be unfair to offer the same aid to men whose needs were different. When misfortune has broken the bonds of equality between men, it is for the Red Cross to try and re-establish them. To bring men up to the same level, one must, above all, look after the most serious cases. One can only remedy an inequality in misfortune by an inequality in help. This is a matter of sound sense.

If the Red Cross has to treat men without discrimination, there are nevertheless distinctions which it is permissible and sometimes necessary to make between individuals. They are those which are based on suffering, distress, or natural weakness, because it is in

this sphere that the Red Cross intervenes in the course of human destiny, and that it changes the lot of human beings.

This principle of equity, of due proportion, comes up against the supremely partisan character of private charity.

Everyone will remember the magnificent impulse of solidarity which followed the Frejus catastrophe. Everyone wanted to give something both in France and in the neighbouring countries. The sum received was enormous for the 2,000 or so victims of the disaster, who were all re-established. That is all very fine, and far be it from me to suggest that less should have been given, but at the same time an ICRC delegate returned from the East and revealed the misery of 600,000 refugees. The appeal had no response and only the smallest sums were received.

Primarily, man is only moved by suffering which he sees, which he can touch, because it arouses his pity and his sense of solidarity, and also because it embarrasses him and it makes him feel ashamed. Without the magnifying-glass of imagination, charity is blind. Geographical proximity sharpens the image of misery and distance blurs it. One could almost say, as if it were a physical law, that the help is inversely proportional to the square of the distance. This grim rule has unfortunate consequences. In a continent with no resources there are only the poor to help those who are poorer. In a region favoured by nature it is the rich who help the less rich.

There is another problem : when the neutrals help the people of a country at war, they wish to do so according to such and such a personal affinity, sentimental or practical. Thus a postmen's association will help the postmen, students other students, and a political party its sympathisers. This is very human. As in family help each person looks after those who are close to him and who depend on him. It is the first meaning of the word " neighbour " when one speaks of " loving one's neighbour ". One looks after those for whom one feels a sense of responsibility, leaving it to others to do the same with regard to other groups.

I repeat that this is human, but life usually ordains it that there are groups which nobody looks after. Well, a work such as the Red Cross is there precisely to re-establish the equilibrium. It makes no distinction between persons and it favours nobody unless perhaps the most unfortunate. It will do all in its power to conciliate in the

world this partiality of individual charity with the ideal of humanity, which requires an aid measured solely by the amount of distress. It will try, for example, to obtain further contributions for those who receive nothing, because it is precisely the Red Cross which says to the unfortunate " I love you because nobody loves you, I love you because you are hated ".

But it must be given the material means and the public must come to accept that it is the Red Cross which distributes relief supplies in the world, according to the real needs which it knows, and which it is in a position to compare.

Because true charity is not only a torch of generosity which is lit by pity. Pity is only the advance guard of love of one's neighbour. The fight against calamities must also be organised in a manner which has been properly worked out, frequently at long intervals. One must seek the causes of ill, try and prevent its ravages and work to deliver the world from it. For this there must be persevering effort, reasoned discipline and constructive sense. Alms are not enough ; they do not solve the problem, they do not lift the unfortunate from his misery and from his dependence. True aid consists in making the man who suffers a free being.

Several times already I have had occasion to draw together the idea of justice and that of charity. To tell the truth this is the core of our study. Justice and charity are the two poles in human relations. But are these virtues fundamentally different, or can they be identified with one another ?

In general, justice consists in giving everyone his due. It presents various aspects which must not be confused. There is, in the first place, the so-called distributive justice, which gives to everyone according to his needs, his merits and, in particular, his rights. It is the justice sanctioned by law and enforced by the courts, but on the moral level there reigns an ideal justice which is also known as equity.

If one considers distributive justice, one sees that it differs profoundly from charity. It has been represented as a woman holding scales and blindfolded. Certainly this symbol could in a sense equally depict charity. Charity, like justice, only recognises man in his capacity as a human being, his name being without importance. Charity, like justice, holds the balance between men.

Charity, like justice, gives to those whom it has chosen for valid reasons. But there the analogy ceases, because if justice gives to each according to his right, charity gives to each according to his suffering. To judge is to separate the good from the wicked, the just from the unjust ; it means assessing individual responsibility. Charity has nothing to do with that form of justice. It refuses to weigh the merits or the faults of the individual. It goes much further, rising above the contrast between good and evil. It attains complete serenity and wisdom, and it then becomes the very image of compassion and boundless kindness.

But as we have said, justice knows many degrees. Starting from primitive vengeance, it is represented in turn by the state of the law and of civilisation in many different epochs and different regions, and reaches its ultimate form at a very lofty level, far in advance of mere legal justice. It then assumes understanding and indulgence, it is inclined to take no further account of men's responsibility, of their merits or their faults, and it tends to become equalitarian, that is to say to offer to men the same chance of living a normal life and winning their share of happiness. It is more concerned with giving everyone what he lacks than with inflicting punishments and harsh treatment. It is no longer a question of applying the usual rules of apportionment, but of redressing the errors of destiny. Such a conception is the ideal : but it is frequently misunderstood by those who have not reached such heights, and in most cases it cannot be put into practice by society, which has to maintain the social order. At this higher level, one can say that justice coincides with charity in which it finds its highest form of expression.

We can therefore conclude that charity and justice, far from conflicting, meet and support each other at a higher level. The Red Cross is an agent of the highest form of justice where charity takes precedence over man-made laws. In the same way, universal justice, the source of social progress and of the happiness of the greatest number, rises to the level of charity and pre-figures the new world for which men are hoping.

* * *

The three principles which we have just enumerated constitute, strictly speaking, the rules of action of the Red Cross. I will deal,

more briefly, with three principles whose aim is to ensure that the Red Cross has the confidence of everybody, which is indispensable to it.

Impartiality, first of all, has it that "the Red Cross will act without favour or prejudice towards or against "anyone". This is no longer a question of the principle of equality amongst men, which is already established ; it is a question of a personal quality of the agent called upon to judge, to choose, or for the Red Cross, to distribute relief supplies and to give aid. Impartiality presupposes that the man called upon to act, enjoys a sufficient degree of freedom. This freedom is two-fold : vis-à-vis itself and vis-à-vis the world. Inward freedom is perhaps the most difficult to attain : passion and mental complexes falsify people's behaviour and this is all the more dangerous as the person concerned is often unaware of their existence. Underlining the difficulty of being impartial, Goethe said in his Aphorisms "I can promise to be sincere, but not to be impartial".

Impartiality depends on a precise, comprehensive and objective examination of the factors involved and an exact appreciation of what is at stake. Finally, it is shown in the application of rules laid down beforehand, of general principles recognised as just, without one yielding to interest in or sympathy for the persons concerned. For the Red Cross, these rules are the three great principles which I have already explained.

Impartiality demands a prolonged and difficult effort to "de-personalise" charitable action ; it will sometimes be the fruit of a hard won victory over oneself.

* * *

The next principle is neutrality, according to which "the Red Cross must observe strict neutrality in the military, political and philosophical spheres".

The word "neutral" is derived from the latin "ne-uter" meaning "neither one nor the other". Neutrality is essentially a negative conception : above all it describes the abstention of someone who remains outside a conflict, who does not openly take the side of either party.

Neutrality demands real self-discipline and sometimes takes long to learn. The man who follows this road will see that in any

controversy one party is rarely entirely right and the other entirely wrong. Having reached an advanced stage in his reflections, he will sense the futility of the motives so often put forward for launching nations into the fray. Considered in this light, neutrality is a first step towards objectivity and so towards wisdom and perhaps towards peace.

On the general level, the idea of neutrality pre-supposes two elements: an attitude of abstention and the existence of persons or groups which oppose one another. Although neutrality defines the attitude of the Red Cross towards belligerents and ideologies, it never determines its behaviour towards the human beings who suffer because, in the first place, the wounded do not fight one another. And, above all, the essential characteristic of the Red Cross is action and, when it acts, not to maintain an inhuman parity, but—quite the contrary—to favour those who are most in need of help. In the parable of the Good Samaritan, the neutral figure, vis-à-vis the wounded man, is the Levite, who passes by indifferent to the dramatic scene which has just occurred.

Neutrality includes several distinct meanings in the doctrine of the Red Cross. It is first of all, naturally, neutrality in the military sphere, which the Red Cross has to observe strictly as the counterpart of the immunity accorded to it. The protection against acts of hostility, which the Geneva Conventions have conferred on military hospitals and health personnel, even on the field of battle, implies that the members of this personnel abstain, with perfect loyalty, from all interference, direct or indirect, in the hostilities.

Secondly, the term “neutrality” is used to describe the reserve which the Red Cross forces itself to adopt towards political, philosophical, ethical and religious doctrines.

The Red Cross fulfils a universal need, it responds to aspirations which are shared by all men, and it acts in accordance with generally accepted principles. In doing this it has perhaps, without realising, taken up its position in the forefront of civilisation.

It is above all with regard to politics, both national and international, that neutrality must be observed. Let Red Cross institutions beware of having anything to do with politics. Their very existence depends on this.

This attitude is sometimes questioned or even decried at a time when so many ideologies clash violently and claim to carry everything along in their train. There is a growing tendency to ask everyone to "enlist" in the cause and to tax those who refuse to do so with cowardice. The policy of a party is being regarded more and more as life's supreme object and conceptions or actions which do not directly assist in attaining it are condemned. Neutrality, like impartiality, is so often misunderstood and rejected simply because everyone wishes to be at the same time judge and party, without having any universally valid criterion on which to base his decision. Everyone imagines, rather naively, that his cause is the only just one and that not to join it is to abandon truth and justice.

Let us now turn to neutrality in regard to religion. This has been a ruling principle of the institution since its inception and has never been disputed. Although the founders of the Red Cross were themselves animated by a Christian spirit, they wished from the first to set up a purely undenominational institution free from all religious influence. One can not indeed conceive of any other course being possible as the movement was destined, by its very nature, to be a universal one. In the same way, the emblem of the red cross on a white ground has no religious significance whatsoever. This has been stated by the Conferences which created the sign deliberately and intended it to be universal and neutral, extending to men of all nations and of all convictions.

Neutrality assumes still more meanings: thus, it is in the neutrality of its members and staff that the International Committee of the Red Cross finds, in time of war or disturbances, the basis of its mission as agent and charitable intermediary. This neutrality offers to belligerents a supplementary guarantee of the Committee's independence. Neutrality is also the attitude which the Red Cross takes with regard to States, treating them on a footing of complete equality, expressing no opinion in regard to their legality, and in no way judging their policies.

It behaves in this way, not to bow down to useless diplomatic usages, but to be able to reach the victims who are to be helped, and since the latter come under the authority of States, the necessary authorizations have to be obtained from them and complete

confidence has to be maintained with them, which implies close co-operation.

I will say very little about the following principle : *independence*, since it speaks for itself. " The Red Cross must be independent of all authorities and free from every influence." If the Red Cross is to remain the Red Cross it must be master of its own decisions, it must control its own actions and words. In order that it may be better able to show the way to charity and its justice, it must break certain ties with the constituted powers. No power, no matter what its nature, must be in a position to move the Red Cross from the fixed course set by its ideals.

Independence must, in the first place, be shown in regard to politics. As we have seen, neutrality demands that Red Cross organisations should abstain from all interference in the home or foreign affairs of a State. On the other hand, it is important for them to preserve their independence by firmly resisting any attempt to introduce politics into their own sphere.

If the Red Cross is deprived of material power, it is from this apparent weakness that it draws its true strength. The States may rest assured that in a world dominated by self-interest, there is at least one exception to the general rule, one institution whose objects are solely humane ; that in a world where expediency and compromise reign, it will act without any ulterior motive and will offer no foothold for any intrigue ; that in a world divided by hatred, it will only be moved by love of one's fellow-men.

* * *

We thus come to the principle of *universality*, which can be stated as follows : " The work of the Red Cross must extend to all men and all countries ".

The notion of universality contains two ideas : that of reaching everyone and that of spreading everywhere. The first assumes a particular significance for the Red Cross : for the institution's ideals demand that it should open its arms to everyone who asks for its help. The really distinctive feature of the Red Cross, where its merit may perhaps lie, is that in its own sphere it has achieved in practice the universality which most advanced civilisations and even religions have conceived but not been able to attain.

The second idea—that of spreading to all countries—follows from the first. In order that relief action may reach everyone, it must be carried out on every portion of the world's surface. The Red Cross must be able to explore every nook and cranny of the vast world of suffering where all men are brothers.

There were two ways open to the Red Cross to attain universality : by federalism or by unity, and right from the start it committed itself to the first. The variegated aspect of our globe with its many different facets was against unity. The movement took its pattern from such a variety of nationalities, each bearing the imprint of sovereignties, cultures, political systems and its own national genius.

The Red Cross accordingly laid its foundations step by step on a national basis. From the beginning the National Societies were set up as independent organisations, free to manage their own affairs. The authority exercised over them by the international organisations of the Red Cross is purely moral. Unity remains symbolic.

The National Red Cross Societies, as such, are not ruled by universality. Nobody expects them to scatter the whole of their resources about the world. Their mission is first and foremost a national one. It is the international organisations of the Red Cross which practice universality and which place no geographical limits to their action.

* * *

We have now come to the end of our review of the fundamental principles. Side by side with them, there extend organic principles which bear on the functioning of the institution. I will content myself here with commenting briefly on two of them.

Amongst these is one which I call " The Golden Rule ", precisely because gold has nothing to do with it. This principle is *selflessness* : " the Red Cross does not reap any advantage from its activities. It is only concerned with the humanitarian interest of the persons who require help ".

In speaking of selflessness of the Red Cross we mean that the latter has no self-interest or rather that its interests and those of the people whom it is helping, are identical. Any encouragement or assistance to the Red Cross serves the victims who need the latter's help, and vice-versa.

Whenever the Red Cross body has to act or make a decision, it will first of all ask itself where the humanitarian interests of the persons in need of help lie and whether they will be furthered. This rule will enable the Red Cross to solve most of the problems it meets, without any possibility of error ; in moments of difficulty it will point the way more surely than the needle of a compass.

The selflessness of the Red Cross is a consequence of the fundamental principle of humanity. The duty of a philanthropic work is to devote itself wholly to mankind ; such an ideal is indivisible. The Red Cross is therefore a purely charitable institution. It has only one object : to relieve human suffering. All its other activities are subordinate to this one unique aim.

The Red Cross has no money motive. It is not moved by a desire for gain, but by love of one's fellow-men.

It is a remarkable fact that in an age where everything can be bought and sold, an organisation should function regularly and permanently without the powerful incentive of commercial profit.

Another important organic principle is that of *voluntary* service. It can be stated in this way : " The Red Cross is an expression of private charity and a spirit of service ; it is an institution for the provision of voluntary relief ".

The word " voluntary " applied to a person does not necessarily mean that he works without remuneration, but that he is working of his own free-will, without being compelled to do so. The idea of voluntary service implies that such service is the result, not of compulsion, but of freely given adherence. This adherence may however take the form of an engagement involving, in its turn, obligations from which the volunteer cannot release himself. But what distinguishes a mercenary from a servant of the Red Cross is that the former only enlists with a view to earning money, while the latter is above all concerned with the work to be done.

It is this very thing which should ensure for the members of the nursing service the esteem and respect to which they are entitled, but which in certain countries they are still refused in part, being considered sometimes as domestics. Why ? Because in antiquity nursing was most often dispensed by slaves. But the nursing profession is one of the most honourable professions and recognition must everywhere be given to the dignity of its vocation.

As in the case of selflessness, the voluntary character of the Red Cross is directly linked with the fundamental principle of humanity : it is a means of putting it into practice. If the Red Cross is to fulfil its mission it must inspire devotion and awaken a sense of vocation. Charity and abnegation are inseparable. As Jean G. Lossier has written : " to serve means to give, to sacrifice part of oneself, part of what one is, of what one has, on behalf of others."

It is this individual, spontaneous spirit in which the Red Cross helps its fellow-men that gives it its private character, and enables it to supplement the assistance given by the public authorities. However well-organized the official services of a State may be,—which Nietzsche described as " cold monsters "—they will never be able to deal with all requirements, guard against all misfortunes, with the requisite tact and sympathy : they will always in some measure have to rely on the goodwill of the population. The Red Cross is the haven of individual charity.

It must therefore take care that the means it employs never make it lose sight of its ultimate purpose. If ever it were to lose the human touch, its direct contact with suffering, if ever it were to lose its voluntary character and immerse itself in officialdom, then the Red Cross would be like a flower which has been plucked and soon withers and dies. This danger, all the greater because it is not obvious, threatens nearly all the institutions of our epoch, especially when they have attained a high degree of development and have established themselves. The machinery thus built up, having become an end in itself, will work and produce nothing, a great body with no eyes to see. Institutions should meditate on the old myth of Antaeus and constantly draw new strength from the source from which they originally sprang.

JEAN S. PICTET

Director for General Affairs of the ICRC

INTERNATIONAL COMMITTEE OF THE RED CROSS

SUNDRY ACTIVITIES

News Items

The ICRC in Laos

The military operations which took place at Muong-Sing and Nam-Tha, in the province of Laos bordering on Burma, China and Thailand, have led to a further influx of refugees into areas controlled by the Vientiane Government.

Dr. Jürg Baer, doctor-delegate of the ICRC in Laos, therefore proceeded to make further relief distributions at Luang-Prabang, the Royal capital. He then went to Houei Sai, on the banks of the Mekong, facing Thailand territory, where he supervised, together with Mrs. Noupbat Chounramany, President of the Women's Committee of the Laotian Red Cross, the distribution of clothing, blankets, condensed milk and concentrated soup to the Meo refugees who had arrived from the mountainous regions to the north of the town. On this occasion a provisional provincial Committee of the Laotian Red Cross was set up at Houei Sai.

Furthermore, the ICRC delegate handed over relief there. In particular he gave condensed milk for the wounded and sick undergoing treatment in the hospital founded by the late Dr. Tom Dooley, the American doctor in whose memory a foundation had been created to continue the splendid humanitarian work to which he had devoted his life.

Shortly before Easter, Dr. Baer made distributions of clothing, food and domestic utensils to refugees from the Plaine des Jannes area, newly arrived in Paksane, about 90 miles to the east of the administrative capital of Vientiane.

These relief supplies were chiefly purchased locally thanks to credits drawn on ICRC relief funds. Further supplies, also destined for the Laotian refugees, left Trieste on April 20 on board M.S. "Cellina".

On the other hand, the action of the International Committee of the Red Cross, exercised also on behalf of the civilian population in areas controlled by the Khuang-Kahī Government, continues to receive the support of the National Red Cross Societies which alone have supplied until now about 300,000 Sw. frs. worth of contributions in cash and in kind. It is true to say that the number of refugees is now six times greater than ten months ago, and that considerable resources are required to meet all their needs.

More recently, Dr. Jurg Baer, doctor-delegate of the International Committee of the Red Cross, arrived at the Plaine des Jarres (Prince Souvanna Phouma's Government). He discussed various humanitarian matters with the Vice-President of the Laotian Red Cross and with the Khang-Khay authorities.

Shortly before this the ICRC had sent relief consignments to this part of Laos consisting chiefly of pharmaceutical products and surgical equipment for the hospital at Xieng-Khouang. These supplies were donated by the Swiss, Polish and Indian Red Cross Societies.

Dr. Baer also intervened on behalf of the victims of recent military operations which had taken place in the Nam Tha region in North Laos. In co-operation with the Laotian Red Cross he distributed relief parcels at the four hospitals at Vientiane to the military who had been wounded during the fighting.

At Paksé and at Thakhek in South Laos, he handed over food and clothing to refugees.

Aid to Dutch Nationals

Mr. Pierre Vibert, delegate of the ICRC, returned to Geneva on May 5 from Djakarta where he dealt, together with the Indonesian Red Cross, with the payment of pensions and allowances which the Netherlands Government makes to a number of Dutch nationals who have remained in Indonesia. About 800 had already received a first payment in December 1961 from Netherlands funds transmitted by the ICRC to the Indonesian Red Cross. The second payment is at present being made.

During the course of his mission in Indonesia, the ICRC delegate also dealt with the assistance given by the Red Cross to Dutch nationals wishing to leave Indonesia for the Netherlands. In this connection the Indonesian Red Cross chiefly assists the aged and sick, or persons with insufficient resources to reach Djakarta.

This action was undertaken by the ICRC in 1961 following on the breakdown of diplomatic relations between Indonesia and the Netherlands, and because of the absence of the protecting Power. Postal communications having also been suspended, the Central

INTERNATIONAL COMMITTEE

Tracing Agency of the ICRC transmits family messages in both directions between the two countries.

Repatriation of Koreans

The 90th boat-load of Koreans returning to their country of origin left Japan on April 21, with 351 people, which brings to 76,219 the total number of people who have returned to North Korea since the beginning of the operation in 1959.

At the request of the Japanese Red Cross, the ICRC special mission is continuing its work in Tokyo and at the embarkation port of Niiga in order to ensure that the people concerned are not subjected to any pressure to compel them either to leave or to remain.

Release of French Prisoners

Mr. Camille Vautier, delegate of the International Committee of the Red Cross in Morocco, assisted in the release, made by virtue of the Evian agreements, of four French military prisoners of the ALN. They were released on May 16, 1962 at Rabat. The ICRC has made a number of representations over the past three years on behalf of these prisoners whose whereabouts had been reported on the Algero-Moroccan frontier.

ICRC to remain in Congo

The International Committee of the Red Cross will not be closing its delegation in Léopoldville for the time being. As the work of this delegation had been noticeably diminishing, the ICRC had recently considered closing it. However, following ICRC member Colonel S. Gonard's visit to the Congo during his recent mission in Africa, and from the observations which this mission was able to make on the spot, the ICRC considers it necessary to remain in the Congo.

It arrived at the same conclusion after hearing M. Jean de Preux, its delegate in Léopoldville since February 12, 1961, who returned to Geneva in April. In his absence, the ICRC has asked Mr. Geoffrey C. Senn, its delegate in Elisabethville, to extend his activities to the whole of the Congolese territory.

In addition to this, the Congolese authorities and UNO High Command in the former Belgian colony have also urged the ICRC to remain in the Congo.

In a letter to the ICRC President, Mr. Léopold Boissier, the Secretary-General of the United Nations, U Thant, wrote "I

would like to say that I attach very great importance to the existence of an ICRC delegation in the Congo. Over the course of the last two years and particularly in periods of crisis, your representatives have carried out a remarkable work. As you know, there are in the Congo many situations of humanitarian importance which require constant attention of the type which only an ICRC representative can give. The presence of an ICRC representative is also extremely important for the carrying out of the very delicate mandate which the UN has been given in the Congo ”.

It should be added that ICRC delegate G. C. Senn has just returned to Léopoldville to contact the Central Congolese Government and the United Nations authorities. Together they reviewed the current humanitarian problems in the Congo.

Enquiry into the Death of G. Olivet

The Commission charged with conducting an impartial and independent enquiry into the circumstances of the death of Georges Olivet, Mrs. Vroonen and Mr. Smeding, Katanga Red Cross workers, has decided to meet in Geneva at the beginning of June, to complete its final report. It will then hand the report to the United Nations and the International Committee of the Red Cross, the two institutions which appointed the members of the Commission.

In Memory of Georges Olivet

The Belgian Government has decided to award posthumously the Belgian Medal of Gratitude to Mr. Georges Olivet, delegate of the International Committee of the Red Cross, who fell at Elisabethville on December 13, 1961, while carrying out a humanitarian Red Cross mission. This Medal is a small artistic medallion in gilded bronze 3½ inches in diameter, framed in a case.

The first year class of hospital nursing students of the French Red Cross Nursing School at Limoges has been named after Georges Olivet, delegate of the International Committee of the Red Cross, killed while carrying out his duty in Katanga, in December 1961. In a letter to the French Red Cross, Miss Madoumier, President of the first year class, made the following comment on this decision:

“ Our first year class has taken the name of Georges Olivet because we wanted it to signify an awareness of current events; the Congo is one of the world’s nerve centres, where two civilizations face each other in a most terrible manner and which for many months has been the scene of much devoted Red Cross action. Georges Olivet has been a great example to us.”

Mission in Austria

ICRC Delegate H. G. Beckh carried out a mission in Austria during April. He was received by Mr. Sevcik, Secretary-General of the Austrian Red Cross, with whom he had talks on questions concerning the work of the International Committee's delegation in Vienna, as well as on problems relating to the reuniting of families.

During his stay at the ICRC delegation's headquarters, Mr. Beckh dealt particularly with this latter question and it was in connection with this that he visited the transit camp at Piding near the Austro-German frontier.

Compensation to Ex-prisoners of War

The International Committee of the Red Cross has just transferred a sum of three million Swiss francs to the Philippine Red Cross. This is the last payment made to this country under the terms of article 16 of the Peace Treaty with Japan. This article provided for financial compensation to be paid to ex-prisoners of war in Japanese hands for the hardships endured during their captivity.

The ICRC was designated by the Peace Treaty to carry out this humanitarian task, and in 1957, it proceeded with most of the distributions in the signatory countries, with the sums set aside from the Japanese funds. But in the Philippines, the absence of archives destroyed during the war delayed payments. The Philippine Red Cross therefore made a series of public appeals which enabled a list of 44,000 beneficiaries to be drawn up, for whom, in 1960, the ICRC transferred a sum of 13 million Swiss francs to the National Red Cross Society.

The second transfer which the ICRC has just made is intended for beneficiaries who did not make themselves known within the time limit.

Dissemination of the Geneva Conventions

As part of its efforts to disseminate knowledge of the Geneva Conventions as widely as possible the ICRC, in co-operation with the League of Red Cross Societies, has brought out a book entitled "The Robinson Family".

Written with humour and in story form, this booklet (43 pages) describes the adventures of a family in war-time. The rules of the Geneva Conventions of August 12, 1949 are shown in practice in many instances of the daily life of the Robinsons and the protection afforded by the Conventions is illustrated by many examples.

The author of the book is Mrs. Barbara Warburton, a former Director of the Junior Red Cross in the United Kingdom ; it is illustrated with skill and humour by the Swiss journalist Pierre Leuzinger.

For the time being this book is available in a limited English language edition. It will shortly be sent to all the National Red Cross Societies.

Red Cross Centenary

During the first months of the year, the work of the Centenary Commission and its various Sub-Committees has continued. The Commission was most interested to learn of the offer by the General Navigation Company of Lac Léman, to include a portrait of Henry Dunant and a fresco amongst the fittings for the vessel *Henry Dunant* which will be launched at the beginning of next year.

The Exhibition Sub-Committee has approved the plan for the Exhibition proceedings, as well as a second model showing the layout of the sectors. These have been distributed amongst the designers and the "sets" are in the process of being established. The Historical Group has continued to study its programme up to the present time, and the Topical Group has drawn up a catalogue of ideas.

The programme of courses and conferences has been settled and the Sub-Committee for Commemoration Day has studied a preliminary list of themes for the procession.

The Swiss press has shown great interest in the Centenary Celebrations and the XXth Conference and has assured the Commission of its support. A second consultative meeting of editors has taken place in Berne, at Swiss Red Cross headquarters, and the final programme for the press campaign has been drawn up. Working groups will shortly be set up to keep the public informed.

The text of the first press communiqué and the report which Mr. Siordet gave in Prague on the Centenary Celebrations have been sent to the National Red Cross Societies. Finally, in the publicity sector, an advertisement plan has been drawn up and the first advertisement projects have been examined.

Guests of the ICRC

From mid-April to May 15, the ICRC received several personalities, in particular the following : Mr. Nedim Abut and Mr. N. Tchikalenko, Under-Secretary-Generals of the League of Red Cross Societies ; Mr. J. de Noue, chief of protocol of the European Office of the United Nations ; Mrs. Banks, of the Cambridge branch of the

INTERNATIONAL COMMITTEE

British Red Cross, accompanied by Mr. Banks, professor of law, in charge of courses in the Universities of Ankara, Istanbul and Izmir ; Mr. Coron, assistant regional manager of the American Red Cross ; Mr. Dan Hartly, executive member of the South Carolina branch of the American Red Cross ; Dr. Giri, Nepalese doctor, attending a course of studies in Europe ; Mr. Carlo Fedele, head of the external relations department of the World Health Organization ; Mrs. Frank L. Packard, member of the Quebec division of the Canadian Red Cross ; Mr. Blackstock, national director of water safety of the Ontario Chapter of the Canadian Red Cross ; H.E. Mr. Georges Cattand, Minister Plenipotentiary, Permanent Delegate of France in Geneva ; H.E. Mr. R. D. Kinzounza, Minister of Public Health and Population in the Republic of the Congo (Brazzaville), accompanied by Dr. Samba Dehlot, Director of that Ministry, and the Hon. M. E. Majekodunmi, Nigerian Minister of Health ; Mrs. Maria Madriaga, President of the Association of Catholic Nurses in Spain.

The ICRC also welcomed several groups of visitors comprising Yugoslav students accompanied by Mr. Jean Möppert of the University Group of International Relations of Geneva, instructor-nurses of the cadre schools of Paris and Marseilles, as well as young jurists from Munich.

THE ICRC IN ALGERIA

Mr. Pierre Gaillard, delegate of the International Committee of the Red Cross, carried out a mission in Algeria during the first fortnight in May, in order to prepare the ICRC's future action. Together with Mr. Roger Vust, permanent delegate of the ICRC, he was received at Rocher-Noir by the French High Commissioner, Mr. Christian Fouchet.

The representatives of the International Committee also had talks with Mr. Abderrahman Farès, head of the Algerian provisional Executive, and with Dr. Hamidou, delegate for social affairs.

During these discussions, the ICRC delegates studied ways of resolving the most urgent humanitarian problems raised in the large towns in Algeria. These in particular include aid to prisoners, tracing missing persons, medical matters, the supplying of children, chiefly with milk, and relief to the regrouped population.

* * *

As we have indicated, the International Committee of the Red Cross recently instructed one of its delegates, Mr. Pierre Gaillard, to make an on-the-spot study of the chief humanitarian problems raised by the recent events in Algeria. Following on the observations made by its representative, it decided to send two doctor-delegates, Dr. Jean-Louis de Chastonay and Dr. Aurelio Foletti, to Algeria, in order to reinforce its permanent delegation directed by Mr. Roger Vust. Dr. Foletti, surgeon, has worked since May 26 at the hospital at Relizane. Furthermore, an ICRC medical team consisting of a surgeon, Dr. Robert-André Egli, a serologist, Dr. Urs Denzler, and a male nurse, left on May 30 for Oran, where it was installed in the Moslem quarter by Dr. de Chastonay, chief medical officer of the ICRC in Algeria.

Considerable consignments of medicaments, blood plasma and blood transfusion equipment were despatched as a matter of

urgency by the ICRC. Included in this relief were two large consignments of blood plasma, donated by the Swedish Red Cross.

Thus the humanitarian problems which the ICRC has to face are becoming daily more and more acute: relief to the resettled population and the supplying of children, medical assistance in the towns, the search for missing persons, aid to prisoners.

A large amount of foodstuffs of American origin has just been placed at the disposal of the ICRC to supply the resettled population, that is to say, persons displaced in the interior of Algeria as a result of the events, amongst whom there are many children. A first consignment of more than 5,000 tons of wheat, flour, oil, beans and milk is shortly expected to arrive at the port of Bougie, where these relief supplies will be unloaded and stored. They will then be distributed under the supervision of the ICRC delegates in the mountains of the Petite Kabylie, and in the department of Sétif.

This operation, which will require considerable material resources and complete support on the part of the administration, will be carried out in direct liaison with the local authorities. It will subsequently be extended over other parts of Algeria.

Kidnapping and many disappearances are causing great anxiety, chiefly amongst Europeans and have resulted above all in very numerous requests for searches: in two weeks the ICRC has received more than 200 of these.

In addition to its normal tracing procedure, the ICRC has decided to resume the practice, frequently employed during the Second World War, of broadcasting appeals. These transmissions have been sent out on the France V wave-length in French and Arabic. These broadcasts are continuing.

Finally, the delegates of the ICRC will resume their visits to all categories of prisoners throughout Algeria, especially to prisoners of European origin, arrested or interned as a result of the events. These visits, which are one of the ICRC's specific tasks, have as their principal object the examination of material and moral conditions of detention and the suggesting of possible improvements. One delegate, Mr. Michel Martin, left Geneva and arrived in Algiers on May 25 in order to take part in this activity of the delegation.

WORLD RED CROSS DAY

For the thirteenth year running, Radio-Genève organised the International Red Cross Broadcast, placed traditionally under the patronage of the ICRC, the League, the European Broadcasting Union and the International Radio and Television Organization. The broadcast took place on May 8 last, the anniversary of Henry Dunant's birth which is celebrated in a number of countries in memory of the founder of the Red Cross. It will be remembered that last year's programme was given by the Belgian Broadcasting corporation and included a cantata by Louis de Meester, on a poem of Karel Jonckheere's, entitled "Here is my blood", which is a salute to the blood donors' gesture of human fellowship.

This year it was the Principality of Monaco's turn to supply the broadcast's main programme, and Radio-Monte-Carlo presented "A memory of Solferino" in a gripping style easily understandable to the millions of listeners. Henry Dunant's book was adapted for radio by Marian-Georges Valentini, with music by Jean-Jacques Grunenwald. The play is in the form of a dialogue between Henri Dunant and the male nurses or the wounded; peasants are also heard, placing their trust in "The man in white". The dialogue is backed by and interspersed with music which conveys the atmosphere of tragedy, the desperate hurry, the agony, finishing on a calmer note which heralds hope. A woman's voice is then heard saying: "One hundred years have elapsed since "A memory of Solferino" was published. All the countries which, over a century, have heard Henry Dunant's call, are here tonight to celebrate this anniversary. Their answer to the passionate voice which still cries unceasingly throughout the world, for love, pity and human fellowship, is: "we are present".

This play was preceded by a series of messages from 28 stations in Europe, Africa, Asia and America. Other stations broadcast special programmes and in all 85 stations celebrated World Red Cross Day, a figure never before reached.

INTERNATIONAL COMMITTEE

The President of the International Committee of the Red Cross, Mr. Léopold Boissier, spoke during the broadcast and gave the following message :

World Red Cross Day was instituted in 1948, and May 8 was chosen, as this is the date of Henry Dunant's birth.

Today, National Red Cross Societies exist in more than 80 States. Does this mean that 80 Governments are ready to draw inspiration from the ideal of peace and brotherhood in suffering which Henry Dunant tried to propagate in the world, nearly one hundred years ago? One would hardly think so to look at the state of the world over the last fifty years. But, it is precisely because there is doubt and because men are afraid of what the future holds, that everything which can instill confidence and encourage men to persevere in the work of peace and mutual aid, must be understood and supported. The Red Cross is in the forefront of institutions which have alleviated the sufferings of mankind. At the moment, it is in action everywhere where men are fighting each other, where they suffer hunger and exile, where they are overtaken by natural disasters, floods, earthquakes and drought. It is a certainty and a sure refuge for the distressed throughout the world, because it knows no frontiers. It asks everyone to believe in it and to be interdependent with one another.

This fellowship is closely connected with Henry Dunant's original gesture on the night of a great battle, when he approached a man who was suffering ; a simple gesture but one which has in some ways changed the face of the world.

Nothing better characterizes this universality than the radio broadcast of May 8. Heartfelt thanks are due to the directors of broadcasting and all who make it possible.

In the days following May 8, the television services of 6 European countries (France, Great Britain, Italy, Monaco, Switzerland and Yugoslavia) screened special programmes on the Red Cross. These were short documentary films, illustrating the activity of the National Societies of these countries. Thus, the anniversary of Henry Dunant's birth was commemorated by television also, whilst the one hundredth anniversary of the publication of " A memory of Solferino " was the occasion for the moving broadcast which we have just described.

NEWS OF NATIONAL SOCIETIES

Formerly: International Bulletin of Red Cross Societies, founded in 1869

Austria

Second Seminar on the Geneva Conventions

The Austrian Red Cross is continuing its efforts to ensure the dissemination and knowledge of the Geneva Conventions. It is paying particular attention to making them known in official circles and by senior officials of the various ministries.

In 1960, it took the initiative in organising a seminar for the study of the four Conventions of 1949, to which the ICRC was invited to send a lecturer. The *Revue internationale* reported this seminar, which aroused a great deal of interest.¹

Encouraged by the success of the first seminar, the Austrian Red Cross convened a second and similar meeting, which was held at the National Society's headquarters in Vienna, on May 18 and 19, 1962. The ICRC was asked to play an even more important part than at the first one, and this year, two lecturers went to Austria, Mr. Jean S. Pictet, Director for General Affairs, and Mr. J. P. Schoenholzer, a member of the Legal Department. On the Austrian side the lecturers were Mr. Kirchschräger, doctor of laws, Minister Extraordinary and Envoy Plenipotentiary, from the Ministry for Foreign Affairs, and Mr. Fr. Wendl, doctor of laws and Austrian Red Cross lawyer. Mr. Kirchschräger examined, on the highest level, the importance which the Geneva Conventions held for Austria and the rôle which this country could play within the sphere of their application. Mr. Wendl, who dealt with the Conventions, is among the finest specialists in humanitarian law in Europe.

¹ See *Revue internationale*, May 1960.

NEWS OF NATIONAL SOCIETIES

There were about thirty people taking part in this course, all of them lawyers or senior officials of the Government and the National Society. They were extremely interested in the lectures given and they took an active part in the debates which followed each one.

Here is the detailed programme of the seminar :

Friday May 18, 1962

- 9 a.m. Opening and speech of welcome by the President of the Austrian Red Cross, Mr. Lauda
- 9.15 a.m. to 10.15 a.m. *The development of international humanitarian law*, by Mr. J. S. Pictet
- 10.30 a.m. to 11.30 a.m. *The Geneva Conventions and their significance for Austria*, by Mr. Kirchschräger
- 11.30 a.m. to 12 p.m. Discussion
- 2 p.m. to 4 p.m. *Systematic presentation of the Geneva Conventions*, by Mr. F. Wendl
- 4.30 p.m. to 5.30 p.m. *The organisation and activities of the ICRC*, by Mr. J. P. Schoenholzer

Saturday May 19, 1962

- 8.30 a.m. to 10 a.m. *The IVth Geneva Convention and its provisions for application*, by Mr. J. P. Schoenholzer
- 10.30 a.m. to 11.30 a.m. *Civil Defence and the law of nations*, by Mr. R. J. Wilhelm, Adviser, Legal Department of the ICRC, report read by Mr. J. P. Schoenholzer
- 11.30 a.m. to 12 p.m. Discussion
- 2 p.m. to 3 p.m. *The reason for the Austrian law protecting the Red Cross emblem*, by Mr. F. Wendl
- 3.15 p.m. to 4 p.m. *The doctrine of the Red Cross*, by Mr. J. S. Pictet.

This seminar, like the first, was a great success and credit for this must be given to the Austrian Red Cross, which organised it, and in particular to its eminent and active Secretary-General, Mr. Hans Sevcik.

This initiative, which must be compared with a similar initiative which we are also describing in the current number and which was taken by the Yugoslav Red Cross, merits the greatest encouragement and should be a source of inspiration to all National Societies. It constitutes a particularly effective means of drawing the attention of the responsible organs of State and the National Societies to the essential rules of the Geneva Conventions and to the obligations which these impose.

It should be pointed out that this seminar has already produced certain results of which the Austrian Red Cross has recently informed the ICRC. To take one example : the Austrian Defence Ministry has asked the National Red Cross to publish an edition of the Geneva Conventions and to comment on them, and it has ordered 40,000 copies of this for itself.

Indonesia

During his recent stay in Djakarta, the ICRC delegate, Mr. Vibert, obtained information which gives a vivid picture of the very fine job of work which the Red Cross is doing over a varied field of action.

Circumstances oblige the Indonesian Red Cross to be continually undertaking relief actions. During the last few years it has had to intervene either following natural disasters or to try and cope with the after-effects of the civil war by distributing foodstuffs and clothing.

The volcano of Merapi, in the centre of the Island of Java, erupted in April 1961 and then large areas of the country were devastated by floods.¹

¹ *Plate.*

Also during 1961 numerous fires ravaged the populous quarters of several towns. As the houses were of bamboo construction, the damage was considerable and here again the Red Cross had to intervene.¹

But the National Society does not limit its action to the Island of Java. It has organized several campaigns to bring aid to the populations evacuated from the southern and south-eastern regions of the Island of Celebes following the civil war. For seven years men, women and children remained without means of subsistence. Today, almost all of them have been re-installed in their native land and numbers of them have returned to their old professions. The Indonesian Red Cross received aid from sister Societies, which allowed more than 100,000 people to return to their towns and villages of origin during 1961, and this action will continue for the next few months. To this are added distributions of clothing, medical supplies, foodstuffs (rice, sugar, coffee, tea) and school requisites.

The Secretary-General of the Society, accompanied by a medical team, made a tour of inspection in the north of the Island of Celebes (Minahasa), following which the Indonesian Red Cross judged it necessary to supply immediate aid to the inhabitants of villages situated in war zones and which had been cut off from all communication for some time. The following programme was then drawn up.

Installation of twenty first-aid posts in the most isolated areas, where endemic diseases such as malaria could be treated.

Distribution of milk, dried fish, clothing and soap.

Health supervision and vaccinations for the population.

Ambulance services for transporting the sick to the nearest hospital.

Mobile kitchens for the distribution of milk and other produce to the large number of people in the evacuation camps.

Courses in hygiene for the public and the voluntary social workers taking part in the struggle for progress in these isolated areas.

Social services intended to facilitate a return to normal life for members of units which had fought in the rebel ranks.

This programme was put into operation in March 1961 and was completed at the end of that year. But it should also be remembered



Fire has destroyed entire districts in Djakarta. The Indonesian Red Cross has come to the aid of the victims ...

INDONESIA

... and has also distributed food to refugees after the eruption of the Merapi volcano.





Refreshments in a day-nursery

RED CROSS OF MONACO

Civilian and military first-aid workers at the Monaco Grand Prix : aiding an injured driver.



that from 1958 to 1961 the Red Cross gave aid to about 180,000 evacuees, that during these three years its budget rose to 7 million Rupias and that the annual relief programme is valued at 5 million Rupias. To achieve all these different actions, it can count on the help of 23 National Red Cross Societies and the Ministry of Social Security.

The Indonesian Red Cross assumes a number of other humanitarian activities, amongst which mention should be made of blood transfusion. The first national seminar on the problems of blood and blood transfusion took place in Djakarta from April 4 to 8, 1961, under the auspices of the Red Cross, the Blood Institute of the Armed Forces and the Faculty of Medicine of the University of Indonesia. It was attended by members of the medical and auxiliary professions, Red Cross workers directly interested in these questions, which were studied in their technical aspect, and members of the groups which are taking part, with the Red Cross, in the programme of education for the public (collection of blood) and in the training of health personnel.

Monaco

While representing the ICRC at the inauguration of the new Headquarters of the Red Cross of Monaco last November, the editor of the Revue internationale had the opportunity of visiting various of the National Society's services both at its Headquarters and at the Monaco Hospital. He particularly noticed the variety of these services, which are evidence of an active social spirit and a desire to build something which shows, within the community, an ever present humanitarian spirit. H.S.H. the Princess Grace of Monaco gives constant and valuable support to the National Society, of which she is President and of which Prince Rainier is Patron.

Here are some of the present activities of the Red Cross of Monaco :

Social Service : Aid to children, the sick and old people, in fact to all the needy of the Principality and the surrounding areas.

During 1961 the Red Cross of Monaco distributed about 100,000 NF, a considerable figure when one thinks that the population of the Principality is only 22 thousand.

There is a *Blood Transfusion service* in the Society's Central Hospital, thanks to the public spirit of the Blood Donors' Association, which is under the auspices of the Red Cross of Monaco.

There is a *Day Nursery* for children whose mothers are busy during the day. The children are fetched every day in the morning and taken home again at night.

First-aid Courses are given to the population and particularly to the Police, which enables them to administer first-aid at the numerous road accidents during the holiday season. The same courses are given to workers and employees of industrial and commercial enterprises in the Principality, so that they can give first-aid on the spot where they work, if necessary.

Junior Red Cross : A large hall and an office are reserved for it in the new building, where courses are given and meetings and practical courses in pre-first-aid are organized for the young.

It also deals with the dissemination of the Geneva Conventions amongst youth and the spirit which inspired them.

There is a *workroom* where voluntary helpers come to knit and sew, the products being distributed to the needy. Paid work is shared amongst people in straightened circumstances, which is a means for them enabling them to live.

Provisional accommodation : This is a highly original activity since, to our knowledge, it has not yet been undertaken by any other National Society. Disturbed by the housing situation and the resultant lack of accommodation, the Red Cross of Monaco, following approaches to the Government of the Principality, has succeeded in ensuring that the families obliged to quit their homes due to expulsion, are lodged in a building belonging to the Administra-

tion of Properties while awaiting to be accommodated elsewhere. These families pay a small rent to the State.

Rehabilitation : Red Cross women lend voluntary help to the Princess Grace General Hospital (Monaco Hospital) and co-operate with the Kinesitherapist and the nurses of this service.

Women also undertake to give lifts to walking cases who come to the General Hospital for Kinesitherapy and they drive them home after treatment.

Hospital Library : The Red Cross has an office for this in the Monaco Hospital. It is run by voluntary female helpers, assisted by a Secretary, who also visit the patients. Princess Grace herself takes an interest in this work.

Sea Rescue : The beaches of Monaco and the surrounding areas are patrolled during the summer season by the Red Cross of Monaco coastal launch, with military first-aiders and frogmen aboard.

Teaching of Home Nursing : Two Registered Nurses trained by the League regularly give courses in elementary Home Nursing, which teach how to look after the sick, old people, young mothers and their children.

Maternity and Child Welfare : Psychoprophylactic maternity courses are given to expectant mothers at Red Cross Headquarters. An obstetrician, who is a member of the Administrative Council of the Red Cross of Monaco, ensures the teaching.

Telecobalt therapy : The Monaco Hospital (Princess Grace General Hospital) possesses a cobalt bomb. This cost more than \$40,000.— and was given to the Red Cross of Monaco by the American Friends of Monaco. The Telecobalt Therapy Department is directed by a Doctor who is a member of the Administrative Council of the Red Cross, and his wife, who is a radiologist herself and also a member of the Red Cross.

The Prince Albert I Hospital Nursing School : This is a State School, which operates under the aegis of the Red Cross of Monaco. It trains about 20 students each year (this is a three-year course), who go to Marseilles to take the final examinations for the French State diploma.

First-Aid Service : The Red Cross of Monaco assumes full responsibility for this service during the Monaco Grand Prix. On this occasion, the Red Cross can naturally count on the help of the civilian and military first-aiders whom it has trained, as well as the members of the Nursing Association of the Red Cross of Monaco.¹

Not only does the Red Cross maintain a whole relay of first-aid posts along the circuit, but it will also have, starting this year, a helicopter ready to fly the injured straight from the scene of an accident to the hospital. Tests have been carried out and the machine has landed on the roof of the hospital itself.

Directed by a member of the Administrative Council, who is assisted by a Surgeon of the Princess Grace General Hospital, who is also a member of the Administrative Council of the National Society, this general first-aid service is in a state of constant readiness for any emergency and is on call day and night. The Red Cross considers that this service could function effectively in the event of any disaster and could be of the greatest possible use on other occasions.

Children's Day Nursery : Each year during the Grand Prix a Day Nursery is organized for children whose parents wish to watch this sporting event. The children are looked after by a member of the Administrative Council of the Red Cross of Monaco, the first-aiders and juniors of the Society. They are given refreshments, followed by a film show.¹

Distribution of Relief and Sweets : During the National Holiday and at Christmas, relief parcels and bags of sweets are given to all those being assisted by the Red Cross, to the patients in the Prin-

¹ *Plate.*

cess Grace General Hospital, and to the old people and children in various institutions of the Principality, by the rulers of Monaco and the Red Cross of Monaco. In 1961 Princess Grace distributed parcels and bags of sweets prepared by the Red Cross to 400 people who were invited to the new Headquarters of the Society, inaugurated on November 17, 1961.¹

International Activities : Since its foundation, the Red Cross of Monaco has taken part in relief actions following disasters in various countries. It has demonstrated the solidarity which binds it to its sister societies by generously responding to the appeals which have been sent to it by the International Committee and the League on different occasions, and particularly during the events in Hungary.

Yugoslavia

The *International Review* has already had occasion to draw attention to the efforts made by the Yugoslav Red Cross in making wide dissemination of the Geneva Conventions. This is at present being continued in Belgrade through a course on these Conventions. In fact in February 1962 the Central Committee organized a series of lectures for leading Red Cross officials, legal experts and doctors of the federal administration.

This course was inaugurated by Dr Pavle Gregorič, President of the National Society in the presence of representatives of the institutions concerned, of the President of the Association of Yugoslav Jurists and of the Head of the Medical Service of the national Yugoslav Army. About thirty people were present who listened with the greatest interest to the reports submitted by leading jurists, and by specialists and Red Cross experts.

¹ See the *International Review*, December, 1961.

NEWS OF NATIONAL SOCIETIES

Questions were then asked by several participants and the subsequent animated discussion was proof of the interest shown in matters whose importance all were aware.

It should be added that publication will be given to the texts of these conferences and that the committees of the National Red Cross will organize similar courses in order to make known the Geneva Conventions and the principles which inspire them to the general public.

As one can see this is an initiative which is bound to develop and we therefore thought it would be of interest to set out the programme of the course, which lasted two days, organized by the Yugoslav Red Cross at its headquarters.

COURSE ON THE GENEVA CONVENTIONS

Monday, February 26, 1962

- 9.30 Inauguration
- 10.00-10.45 *Contemporary humanitarian law*, by Dr. Milan Bartôs of the Yugoslav Academy, adviser in general law of the Foreign Affairs Secretariat, member of the United Nations Commission for International Law.
- 11.00-11.45 *The history, development and principles of the Geneva Conventions*, by Dr. Juraj Andrassy, Professor at the University of Zagreb, member of the Institute of International Law.
- 12.00-12.45 *The protection of the wounded and sick*, by Dr. Jovica Patrnogić, Dean of the Faculty of Law and Economics at Pristina.
- 17.00-17.45 *The protection of prisoners of war*, by Lieutenant-General Dr. Djoko Ivanović.
- 18.00-18.45 *The protection of the civilian population*, by Dr. Milan Sahovic, Head of the Department of International Law at the Institute of International Politics and Economics.

Tuesday, February 27, 1962

- 9.00- 9.45 *The International Red Cross and the Geneva Conventions*,
by Dr. Bosko Jakovljevič, Scientific Assistant at the
Institute of Politics and Economics of the Yugoslav
Red Cross.
- 10.00-10.45 *Concluding remarks*, by Dr. Pavle Gregorič, Vice-
President of the Federal National Assembly, President
of the Yugoslav Red Cross.
- 11.00-13.00 Discussion.
-

M I S C E L L A N E O U S

SEA RESCUE SERVICE

Under the heading "The sea rescue service in the North Sea and the Baltic", the *Revue internationale* of April 1960 (English Supplement, August 1960) published an article by Mr. Hans Hansson, Director of the Swedish Sea Rescue Service, in which the efforts made in the XVIIIth century to create effective rescue craft are recalled, and the activity of his service is described. He also mentioned rescue operations effected by German and Polish lifeboats. Today in most of the countries bordering the North Sea and Baltic, naval and air forces can make available fast craft capable of bringing effective aid within a very short time. Mr. Hansson also stressed the importance of a sea rescue service organised on a basis of international co-operation, which would operate in time of peace as in time of war, and would be based on conclusive experience gained by the sea rescue services in the North Sea.

A little later a suggestion was made that an effort on the international level should be made in this sphere and that a combined type of "meteorological-rescue" craft be made available in the North Sea. The Governments of Denmark, Norway, the German Federal Republic and Sweden declared themselves prepared to take the necessary steps. The idea took shape and a craft was put into commission. According to the resolution, however, passed at a conference meeting at Gothenburg in September 1961 at which the representatives of the governments concerned and experts were present, this service was to cease operating at the end of March 1962 to resume in the following winter. It is indeed to be hoped that it will become permanently established and that the necessary funds will be found for that purpose.

We are grateful to Mr. Hans Hansson for letting us have the text of the recommendation adopted at that conference by the re-

representatives of the countries concerned, and which we publish below. As can be seen it fully demonstrates the need for international effort in sea rescue.

RECOMMENDATION :

After full discussion and upon motion duly made, seconded and unanimously carried, it is resolved that the following recommendation shall be made to the governments of Denmark, Norway, The Federal Republic of Germany and Sweden :

A conference held in Gothenburg 22nd and 23rd September with delegates representing Governments, Administrations and Institutions in Denmark, The Federal Republic of Germany, Norway and Sweden on the question of placing a combined weather and rescue ship in the center of the North Sea.

having considered that such ship has already been in service each year since 1959 during three months-periods January-March,

and having discussed the technical and financial views of the matter,

(1) recommends to the four countries in question to place a combined weather and rescue ship in October this year on a position of 56°30' N and 03°00' E for service during six months this winter period and to make the same arrangement for the winter period 1962-1963 ;

(2) recommends that the ship shall make regular weather observations every third hour and report to the Norwegian Weather Service ;

(3) recommends that the ship shall keep permanent watch on the international distress frequency 2182 kc., and if possible on other frequencies ;

(4) recommends that the ship shall make hydrographic observations according to wishes from the Hydrological Services in the four countries ;

(5) recommends that the ship shall transmit radio signals for direction finding and take radio bearings when needed for ships in distress ;

MISCELLANEOUS

(6) recommends that the observations made on board the ship concerning the actual weather situation shall be broadcast in the national weather reports ;

(7) expresses the opinion that after experiences have been gained during the two aforementioned periods a decision should be made whether, if possible, a ship specially built and fitted for this service could be put in a permanent service ;

(8) recommends that other nations around the North Sea be invited to support and take part in this service for the benefit of the meteorological service and of the safety of navigation, fishing and aviation ;

(9) draws the attention of the proper authorities and of the shipping associations to the fact that the shore-based direction finding service in the United Kingdom has been discontinued from 1st September, 1961 ;

(10) recommends that the continued co-operation between the four aforementioned countries shall follow the lines laid down in the appendix to these minutes.

* * *

We would add that should this sea rescue service become permanently established in which the four States we have mentioned have participated in preceding years, great importance would also be given to the equipment of this craft as regards medical and first aid treatment. Its crew would be instructed to be able, if required, to provide first aid in accidents at sea and some of whose members would be trained as frogmen in order to come to the aid of ships in distress. Furthermore, the craft would be fitted out with medicaments and medical equipment.

Finally, as regards the financing, Mr. Hansson himself considers that the best solution would be for this to be done by private donation by a wealthy individual, by a group of persons or by some society interested in humanitarian activities.

B O O K S

THE POSITION OF THE INDIVIDUAL IN INTERNATIONAL LAW ACCORDING TO GROTIUS AND VATTETL¹

by

PETER P. REMEC

Among recent publications on International Law which are of particular interest for the readers of this Review, we should like to point out the above-mentioned work by Mr. Peter P. Remec, of Fordham University, which includes a preface by Professor Quincy Wright of the University of Virginia.

There is no fundamental problem in present-day International Law which more directly concerns humanitarian law than this question of the position of the individual in International Law. Indeed, the governing idea of humanitarian law is that of the value of the human being. However, Vattel's influence resulted in such a predominance of the State over the individual that the humanitarian Conventions, which, starting with the first Geneva Convention of August 22, 1864, are nothing less than a series of International Law regulations signed by the State in favour of the individual, can rightly be considered as an important success of the cause of the human being.

The principles of natural law, so dear to Grotius, are thus endorsed by inter-State regulations, which protect, not the interests of the State, but those of the individual.

It is true that, according to the traditional conception of International Law, the Geneva Conventions are concluded between States and that they provide for wartime. Generally speaking, therefore, the State only commits itself with regard to individuals who are not its own nationals and whose interests can thus be considered to be represented by the co-contracting State ; however, humanitarian reasoning is so strong here that the similarity of

¹ Martinus Nijhoff, The Hague, 1960.

BOOKS

situations and dangers has resulted, for the victims of civil wars or internal disturbances, that is, for the nationals of a given State, in a legal protection, which so as not to be as far-reaching as that enjoyed by non-nationals, involves nevertheless a minimum of humane treatment. This legal protection is the result of Article 3, common to the four Geneva Conventions of August 12, 1949, which was so to speak concluded outside the general framework of the Conventions.

Although its scope has not yet been sufficiently evaluated and although it actually requires further elaboration in order to impose on a State adequate respect of the essential rights of its own nationals in the event of an armed conflict opposing them to the State, this article is in actual fact the result of a compromise between the interests of the State and those of the individual—a compromise without which the humanitarian spirit governing the law of Geneva would have ceased to be respected.

Mr. Peter P. Remec's thoughtful analyses of the position of the individual in International Law according to the divergent views of Grotius and Vattel help us to appreciate the considerable progress which the humanitarian conventions represent for the respect of essential human rights. And it is important to point out that this respect refers to situations in which these rights are the most seriously endangered, namely in time of war and the frequent more or less violent conflicts—which are often still greater dangers—between governments and the governed.

H. C.

ESSAI SUR L'ÉVOLUTION DES QUESTIONS HOSPITALIÈRES¹

by

MAURICE ROCHAIX

In this work of some 300 pages, the author, who is a Doctor of Laws and Director of the Hospital Centre of Belfort, gives a com-

¹ Edited by the *Fédération Hospitalière de France*, Paris.

prehensive survey of the problems of public health in France during the last 170 years, that is, as the title adds, " from the end of the *Ancien Régime* until now ". The book is well supported by substantial historical, statistical and diagrammatic information. The author being a jurist and not a doctor, emphasis is laid on the social, humanitarian and economic aspect of the problem and it is from this point of view that we should like to present it to our readers.

In his preface to the book, the Director-General of Public Health, Paris, writes of the constant link between, on the one hand, theory, history and the way they continually mould human relations and conditions of existence, and, on the other, the accompanying development in the institutions dealt with in this book. In his foreword, Mr. Rochaix then mentions the difficulties which faced him, and firmly outlines the principal basic differences between the "*Hôtel-Dieu*" of former times with its "*bien sacré des pauvres*", the Endowment, and the modern hospital, " that factory for medical treatment ", with its technical arsenal, the financial problems of its directors, worried about debts, profits, etc. : the differences between the donations and bequests which until the last century represented the only means for a hospital to improve and develop, and the present-day system of nation-wide planning in matters of hospital equipment ; nowadays a total of 230,000 persons are employed in hospitals as against 20,000 barely a century ago.

The overwhelming disproportion created by social and humanitarian progress between the two periods mentioned is evident. However, the author then gives an overall picture of the hospital situation in France between 1760 and 1789, that is, at the end of the *Ancien Régime* ; he points out that the last third of the eighteenth century was marked by a very pronounced increase in pauperism ; however, the idea of charity evolved towards the notion of social duty and benevolence. The Kings of France themselves encouraged this evolution : " The King acts in the interests of the Nation and asserts his hold over the charitable establishments. "

Of the ways of alleviating human suffering, the author chooses two in particular : home nursing and treatment by hospitalization. The State organized the first of these, because by trying to create teams of midwives in rural areas and supplying them with medica-

ments, the Crown instituted social hygiene measures and the beginnings of a medical service ; these measures were no longer inspired by the idea of private charity, but by that of protecting the community.

The titles of the various paragraphs concerning treatment by hospitalization reveal the principal features of the charitable establishments taken as a whole—for example : Chaotic distribution, the result of chance, donations and bequests ; The variety of administrative systems, mainly due to the different origins of the hospital establishments ; The difference in activities owing to the different needs caused by pauperism. These and many other factors reveal the situation of the hospitals in France at the end of the Monarchy.

The author sets forth the reasons why the various Revolutionary governments, especially the Convention, were not able to make any improvements in this situation ; according to Maurice Rochaix, one of the principal causes was the abolition of the guilds, which led to a substantial increase in the numbers of the unorganized and defenceless proletariat. More than ever before, pauperism became a distressing problem.

However, during this period, that is, under the Convention, various factors heralded a better future : 1) the entry of scientific knowledge into the field of social science, 2) an increasing sense of social responsibility, and 3) the leading rôle of the State. Moreover, the idea of social welfare through work, as well as that of a social insurance system are born. We thus find the first seeds of the achievements which nowadays constitute the foundations of the administrative and executive mechanism of the public welfare system of a State. Following the historical evolution of these achievements until the present day, the author gives us a picture of the predominant ideas, successes and failures of each period. The hospital has to face ever increasing needs and ever changing problems—and the significant words “has to face” recur again and again throughout the book.

J. Z.

A GLANCE THROUGH THE REVIEWS

Freedom from Hunger Campaign News, Rome, Vol. 3, No. 12.

Much interest has been focused recently on action projects. They are prominent in the Campaign plans of a number of FFHC National Committees. They were much discussed at the last meeting of Non-Governmental Organizations here at FAO headquarters. They have been reported on from time to time in this magazine.

In fact, action projects have lately loomed so large in Campaign matters, and have represented such a variety of responses, endeavors and activities, that it may be useful and interesting to consider just what an action project is and how it relates to the work FAO, and the objectives of the Campaign as a whole.

FAO's charter is to help change the state of man and food permanently for the better. This is no simple or light task. Man's relation to the soil, his eating habits, his methods of distributing and processing his food, are infinitely various and often quite complicated.

Because it is a multinational agency, and because it is able to draw on the experience and insights, the know-how and technical manpower of most of the world, FAO has made considerable progress in clarifying the nature and complexities of its task and in working out flexible and effective patterns of influence and action in relation to this task.

Some of these patterns of influence and action are relatively simple things like helping a country to develop a new type of farm implement ; others are highly technical indeed, like the World Food Program, in which FAO, in collaboration with the United Nations, will seek to utilize agricultural surpluses for broad economic and social development.

To this immensely diverse work-load of FAO, the action project bears much the same sort of relation as the above-water part of an iceberg does to the below-water part. The action project is concrete. It is visible. It is vital. But it is only one part of a complex and continuing effort on many different levels.

This is why the Director-General of FAO has characterized the Freedom from Hunger Campaign, from its beginning, as a threefold operation : in the fields of education and information, of research, and of action.

We have learned much about the human predicament of hunger, but we need to learn much more. We have faced up to and solved many particular problems in our research institutes, laboratories and workshops, but there are still plenty more on the doorstep. We need to act, but in a framework of expanding understanding and exploration.

A GLANCE THROUGH THE REVIEWS

Against this background, let us look at some actual action projects, ranging all the way from simple one-country operations to a worldwide program.

Africa is much in the news these days, and FAO has a number of responsibilities and projects in Africa. One African project now in operation is set in Northern Nigeria ; it is working to bring more protein into the diet of people there ; and it is a good example of the variety of factors that make up an action project.

The situation which the Nigerian government has called on FAO to help change is this : in Northern Nigeria, the rural people live mainly on a diet of tubers and roots, high in starch content and low in protein. Lacking protein, the substance necessary to growth and strength, the rural people suffer in health. Infants particularly suffer.

Weaned from mother's milk to a diet mainly of starches, their capacity for growth and resistance to disease is low and they suffer general debility, all sorts of particular ailments, and often death.

From previous experience, FAO officials knew that one ready and practical answer to rural diet imbalances lay in the type of vegetables known as legumes. Legumes, which include groundnuts (peanuts), cowpeas, dolichos, pigeon peas, beans and lentils, are a high-quality protein source and an excellent complement to staple diets of cereals or roots and tubers.

Legumes were, in fact, already grown in Northern Nigeria, but mainly as commercial crops that were sold rather than eaten locally. Here, then, was a possible solution of the diet problem in this region: by extending and diversifying the growing of legumes and by helping the rural peoples learn their food value and attraction.

Thus, a problem had been posed and examined, and a solution had been envisaged. The next thing was to start doing something ; in other words, to set up an action project.

As we have seen above, action projects are not produced ready-made from FAO filing cabinets. Even more or less simple ones, as this Nigerian project promised to be, needed, first of all, money.

FAO's normal budget has in the past provided no money for field projects. For this work, we have sought funds from the UN Technical Assistance Board or the relatively new Special Fund. Now, under the Freedom from Hunger Campaign launched less than two years ago, FAO may seek financial support for the attack on hunger over a wide field of public and private sources...

Money found, the next thing sought was experts. Here, too, all was not as simple as it might seem to the casual glance. Besides FAO's own extensive work-program with the developing countries, many other developed nations are conducting their own bilateral aid programs. This makes all kinds of food and agricultural experts very much in demand, and it is often far from easy for FAO to find just the right technical people for the particular job in a particular country.

EXTRACT FROM THE STATUTES OF
THE INTERNATIONAL COMMITTEE OF THE RED CROSS

(AGREED AND AMENDED ON SEPTEMBER 25, 1952)

ART. 1. — The International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC), founded in Geneva in 1863 and formally recognized in the Geneva Conventions and by International Conferences of the Red Cross, shall be an independent organization having its own Statutes.

It shall be a constituent part of the International Red Cross.¹

ART. 2. — As an association governed by Articles 60 and following of the Swiss Civil Code, the ICRC shall have legal personality.

ART. 3. — The headquarters of the ICRC shall be in Geneva.

Its emblem shall be a red cross on a white ground. Its motto shall be "Inter arma caritas".

ART. 4. — The special rôle of the ICRC shall be :

- (a) to maintain the fundamental and permanent principles of the Red Cross, namely: impartiality, action independent of any racial, political, religious or economic considerations, the universality of the Red Cross and the equality of the National Red Cross Societies :
- (b) to recognize any newly established or reconstituted National Red Cross Society which fulfils the conditions for recognition in force, and to notify other National Societies of such recognition ;

¹ The International Red Cross comprises the National Red Cross Societies, the International Committee of the Red Cross and the League of Red Cross Societies. The term "National Red Cross Societies" includes the Red Crescent Societies and the Red Lion and Sun Society.

- (c) to undertake the tasks incumbent on it under the Geneva Conventions, to work for the faithful application of these Conventions and to take cognizance of any complaints regarding alleged breaches of the humanitarian Conventions ;
- (d) to take action in its capacity as a neutral institution, especially in case of war, civil war or internal strife; to endeavour to ensure at all times that the military and civilian victims of such conflicts and of their direct results receive protection and assistance, and to serve, in humanitarian matters, as an intermediary between the parties ;
- e) to contribute, in view of such conflicts, to the preparation and development of medical personnel and medical equipment, in co-operation with the Red Cross organizations, the medical services of the armed forces, and other competent authorities ;
- (f) to work for the continual improvement of humanitarian international law and for the better understanding and diffusion of the Geneva Conventions and to prepare for their possible extension ;
- (g) to accept the mandates entrusted to it by the International Conferences of the Red Cross.

The ICRC may also take any humanitarian initiative which comes within its rôle as a specifically neutral and independent institution and consider any question requiring examination by such an institution.

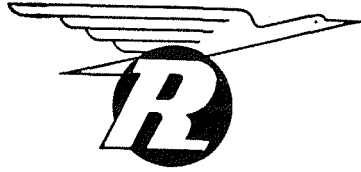
ART. 6 (first paragraph). — The ICRC shall co-opt its members from among Swiss citizens. The number of members may not exceed twenty-five.



a universal symbol
of quality
and service



Over 90 years experience and progress in the field of infant dietetics bear testimony to this fact. In insisting upon the highest standards of quality production, Nestlé has, with its great resources, equipment and constant research ensured that each one of its products befits its purpose in every way



H. Ritschard & Cie. S.A.

**INTERNATIONAL TRANSPORT
TRAVEL AGENCY**

GENEVA, 18, Place Cornavin

Telephone 32 34 00 - Teleprinter 22 167

Exchange - Tickets - Sea passages

Insurance - Customs Agency

Road haulage - Storage

Home delivery of air and rail tickets on request by telephone

Branches :

LAUSANNE - BASLE - ZURICH - ANNEMASSE (France)



Auderset & Dubois

TRAVEL AGENCY

16, place Cornavin - Tel. 32 60 00 - Teleprinter 22 492 - Geneva

Regular services to: Geneva — Nice — Barcelona — Boulogne
Turin — La Baule

Tickets for all destinations Air - Ship - Rail - Pullman

LONG-DISTANCE INTERNATIONAL TOURS BY LUXURY COACHES
INTERNATIONAL ROAD TRANSPORT

Compliments of

**SELAS CORPORATION
OF AMERICA**

*Designers and Builders
of Industrial Furnaces*

10, chemin de l'Impératrice PREGNY-GENÈVE

Some publications of the ICRC

The International Committee publishes works on law and on humanitarian ideas. The following have been published or reprinted recently :

The Geneva Conventions of August 12, 1949. *Geneva, 1949.*
249 p., Sw. fr. 8.—.

The Geneva Conventions of August 12, 1949. Brief Summary for Members of the Armed Forces and the General Public. — *Geneva, 1951.*
13 p., Sw. fr. 1.—.

Commentaries published under the general editorship of Jean S. Pictet, Director for General Affairs of the International Committee of the Red Cross. (*Translated from the original French*) :

I. Geneva Convention for the Amelioration of the Condition of the Wounded and Sick in Armed Forces in the Field. — *Geneva, 1952.* 466 p., paper-back Sw. fr. 12.—; bound Sw. fr. 15.—.

II. Geneva Convention for the Amelioration of the Condition of Wounded, Sick and Shipwrecked Members of Armed Forces at Sea. — *Geneva, 1960.* 320 p., paper-back Sw. fr. 15.—; bound Sw. fr. 20.—.

III. Geneva Convention relative to the Treatment of Prisoners of War. — *Geneva, 1960.* 764 p., paper-back Sw. fr. 30.—; bound Sw. fr. 35.—.

IV. Geneva Convention relative to the Protection of Civilian Persons in Time of War. — *Geneva, 1958.* 660 p., paper-back Sw. fr. 25.—; bound Sw. fr. 30.—.

ADDRESSES OF CENTRAL COMMITTEES

- AFGHANISTAN — Afghan Red Crescent, *Kabul*.
- ALBANIA — Albanian Red Cross, 35, Rruga Barrikadavet, *Tirana*.
- ARGENTINE — Argentine Red Cross, Victoria 2068 (R.72), *Buenos Aires*.
- AUSTRALIA — Australian Red Cross, 122-128 Flinders Street, *Melbourne, C. 1*.
- AUSTRIA — Austrian Red Cross, 3, Gusshausstrasse, *Vienna IV*.
- BELGIUM — Belgian Red Cross, 98, Chaussée de Vleurgat, *Brussels*.
- BOLIVIA — Bolivian Red Cross, Avenida Simon-Bolivar, 1515 (Casilla 741), *La Paz*.
- BRAZIL — Brazilian Red Cross, Praça da Cruz Vermelha 10-12, *Rio de Janeiro*.
- BULGARIA — Bulgarian Red Cross, 1, Boul. S.S. Biruzov, *Sofia*.
- BURMA — Burma Red Cross, 42, Strand Road, Red Cross Building, *Rangoon*.
- CAMBODIA — Cambodian Red Cross, 8 Phlaur Ang Nonn, P.O.B. 94, *Pnom-Penh*.
- CANADA — Canadian Red Cross, 95, Wellesley Street East, *Toronto 5*.
- CEYLON — Ceylon Red Cross, 106, Dharmalapa Mawatte, *Colombo VII*.
- CHILE — Chilean Red Cross, Avenida Santa Maria 0150, Casilla 246 V., *Santiago de Chile*.
- CHINA — Red Cross Society of China, 22, Kammien Hutung, *Peking, E*.
- COLOMBIA — Colombian Red Cross, Carrera 7a, 34-65 Apartado nacional 11-10, *Bogota*.
- COSTA RICA — Costa Rican Red Cross, Calle 5a Sur, Apartado 1025, *San José*.
- CUBA — Cuban Red Cross, Ignacio Agramonte 461, *Havana*.
- CZECHOSLOVAKIA — Czechoslovakian Red Cross, Thunovska 18, *Prague III*.
- DENMARK — Danish Red Cross, Platanvej 22 *Copenhagen V*.
- DOMINICAN REPUBLIC — Dominican Red Cross, Calle Galvan 24, Apartado 1293, *San Domingo*.
- ECUADOR — Ecuadorian Red Cross, Avenida Colombia y Elizalde 118, *Quito*.
- ETHIOPIA — Ethiopian Red Cross, *Addis Ababa*.
- FINLAND — Finnish Red Cross, Tehtaankatu 1 A, *Helsinki*.
- FRANCE — French Red Cross, 17, rue Quentin-Bauchart, *Paris (8^e)*.
- GERMANY (Dem. Republic) — German Red Cross in the German Democratic Republic, Kaitzerstrasse 2, *Dresden A. 1*.
- GERMANY (Federal Republic) — German Red Cross in the Federal Republic of Germany, Friedrich-Ebert-Allee 71, *Bonn*.
- GHANA — Ghana Red Cross, P.O. Box 835, *Accra*.
- GREAT BRITAIN — British Red Cross, 14 Grosvenor Crescent, *London, S.W.1*.
- GREECE — Greek Red Cross, rue Lycavitou 1, *Athens*.
- GUATEMALA — Guatemalan Red Cross, 4a Calle 11-42, Zona 1, *Guatemala*.
- HAITI — Haiti Red Cross, rue Férou, *Port-au-Prince*.
- HONDURAS — Honduran Red Cross, Calle Henry Dunant, *Tegucigalpa*.
- HUNGARY — Hungarian Red Cross, Arany Janos utca 31, *Budapest V*.
- ICELAND — Icelandic Red Cross, Thorvaldsensstraeti 6, *Reykjavik*.
- INDIA — Indian Red Cross, 1 Red Cross Road, *New Delhi 1*.
- INDONESIA — Indonesian Red Cross, Tanah Abang Barat 66, *Djakarta*.
- IRAN — Iranian Red Lion and Sun Society, Avenue Ark, *Teheran*.
- IRAQ — Iraqi Red Crescent, *Baghdad*.
- IRELAND — Irish Red Cross, 25 Westland Row, *Dublin*.
- ITALY — Italian Red Cross, 12, via Toscana, *Rome*.
- JAPAN — Japanese Red Cross, 5 Shiba Park, Minato-Ku, *Tokyo*.
- JORDAN — Jordan Red Crescent, P.O. Box 1337, *Amman*.
- KOREA (Democratic Republic) — Red Cross Society of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, *Pyongyang*.
- KOREA (Republic) — The Republic of Korea National Red Cross, 32-3 Ka Nam San-Dong, *Seoul*.
- LAOS — Laotian Red Cross, *Vientiane*.
- LEBANON — Lebanese Red Cross, rue Général Spears, *Beirut*.

ADDRESSES OF CENTRAL COMMITTEES

- LIBERIA** — Liberian National Red Cross, Camp Johnson Road, *Monrovia*.
- LIBYA** — Libyan Red Crescent, Berka Omar Mukhtar Street, P.O. Box 541, *Benghazi*.
- LIECHTENSTEIN** — Liechtenstein Red Cross, *Vaduz*.
- LUXEMBURG** — Luxemburg Red Cross, Parc de la Ville, *Luxemburg*.
- MEXICO** — Mexican Red Cross, Sinaloa 20, 4º piso, *Mexico 7, D.F.*
- MONACO** — Red Cross of Monaco, 27, Boul. de Suisse, *Monte-Carlo*.
- MONGOLIA** — Red Cross Society of the Mongolian People's Republic, 26, Nairamdal Gudamg, P.O. 20/26 *Ulan-Bator*.
- MOROCCO** — Moroccan Red Crescent, rue Calmette, *Rabat*.
- NETHERLANDS** — Netherlands Red Cross, 27 Prinsessegracht, *The Hague*.
- NEW ZEALAND** — New Zealand Red Cross, 61 Dixon Street, P.O.B. 6073, *Wellington C. 2*.
- NICARAGUA** — Nicaraguan Red Cross, 12 Avenida Nordeste, 305, *Managua, D.N.C.A.*
- NIGERIA** — The Nigerian Red Cross Society, 2, Makoko Road, P.O. Box 764, *Lagos*.
- NORWAY** — Norwegian Red Cross, Parkveien 33b, *Oslo*.
- PAKISTAN** — Pakistan Red Cross, Frere Street, *Karachi 4*.
- PANAMA** — Panamanian Red Cross, *Panama*.
- PARAGUAY** — Paraguayan Red Cross, calle André Barbero y Artigas, *Asunción*.
- PERU** — Peruvian Red Cross, Tarapaca 881, *Lima*.
- PHILIPPINES** — Philippine National Red Cross, 600 Isaac Peral Street, P.O.B. 280, *Manila*.
- POLAND** — Polish Red Cross, Mokotowska 14, *Warsaw*.
- PORTUGAL** — Portuguese Red Cross, General Secretaryship, Jardim 9 de Abril, 1 a 5, *Lisbon*.
- RUMANIA** — Red Cross of the Rumanian People's Republic, Strada Biserica Amzei 29, C.P. 729, *Bucarest*.
- SALVADOR** — Salvador Red Cross, 3a Avenida Norte y 3a Calle Poniente, 21, *San Salvador*.
- SAN MARINO** — San Marino Red Cross, *San Marino*.
- SOUTH AFRICA (Republic)** — South African Red Cross, 304, Barclay's Bank Building, 14 Hollard Street, P.O.B. 8726, *Johannesburg*.
- SPAIN** — Spanish Red Cross, Eduardo Dato 16, *Madrid, 10*.
- SUDAN** — Sudanese Red Crescent, P.O. Box 235, *Khartum*.
- SWEDEN** — Swedish Red Cross, Artillerigatan 6, *Stockholm 14*.
- SWITZERLAND** — Swiss Red Cross, Taubenstrasse 8, *Berne*.
- SYRIA** — Syrian Red Crescent, Damascus.
- THAILAND** — Thai Red Cross Society, King Chulalongkorn Memorial Hospital, *Bangkok*.
- TOGO** — Togolese Red Cross Society, Avenue des Alliés, P.O. Box 655, *Lome*.
- TUNISIA** — Tunisian Red Crescent, 1, Avenue de Carthage, *Tunis*.
- TURKEY** — Turkish Red Crescent, Yenisehir, *Ankara*.
- UNITED ARAB REPUBLIC** — Red Crescent Society of the United Arab Republic, 34, rue Ramses, *Cairo*.
- URUGUAY** — Uruguayan Red Cross, Avenida 8 de Octubre, 2990, *Montevideo*.
- U.S.A.** — American Red Cross, National Headquarters, 17th and D Streets, N.W., *Washington 6, D.C.*
- U.S.S.R.** — Alliance of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies, Kounznetzky Most 18/7, *Moscow*.
- VENEZUELA** — Venezuelan Red Cross, Avenida Andrés Bello No 4, *Caracas*.
- VIET NAM (Democratic Republic)** — Red Cross of the Democratic Republic of Viet Nam, 68, rue Bà-Triez, *Hanoi*.
- VIET NAM (Republic)** — Red Cross of the Republic of Viet Nam, 201, duong Hồng-Thập-Tu, No. 201, *Saigon*.
- YUGOSLAVIA** — Yugoslav Red Cross, Simina ulica broj 19, *Belgrade*.